

## Message Text

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12

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ACDA-05 DPW-01 /073 W

----- 002627

O R 030624Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4961

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 0728

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, KRC, VN, VS, POIP, WN/O, NO

SUBJECT: PRG AND LOW CONFERENCE

REF: CANBERRA 0622

1. DFA INFORMED US TODAY THAT GOA WILL NOW VOTE  
AGAINST RPT AGAINST APPLICABILITY OF RULE 32.

2. IF VOTE IS NEVERTHELESS TAKEN UNDER  
RULE 32, GOA WILL VOTE TO RECONSIDER DECISION OF  
FIRST SESSION REGARDING INVITATION TO PRG.

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3. GOA WILL ABSTAIN ON A SUBSTANTIVE VOTE TO SEAT

THE PRG AS A GOVERNMENT BUT WILL STATE THAT IN GOA'S VIEW PRG SHOULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AS AN OBSERVER AND THAT PRG IN OBSERVER STATUS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO ADDRESS CONFERENCE.

4. FINALLY, SHOULD CONFERENCE VOTE TO EXCLUDE PRG, GOA WILL OPPOSE AND VOTE AGAINST ANY MOVES TO EXCLUDE GVN FROM CONFERENCE AS WELL.

5. NEW GOA POSITION WAS DECIDED BY FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE LATE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 31. IT COMPLETELY REVERSES GOA POSITION ON PROCEDURAL QUESTION OF RULE 32 REPORTED IN REFTTEL. DFA OFFICIALS SAID THAT GOA VIEW WAS THAT PROCEDURAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD NOT BE INVOKED TO PREVENT THE SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION OF PRG PARTICIPATION FROM BEING DECIDED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL WHITLAM'S EMOTIONAL DISTASTE FOR LONG EXCLUSION OF PRC FROM UN THROUGH PROCEDURAL VOTES.

6 CHARGE CALLED DFA SECRETARY RENOUF TO EXPRESS OUR SURPRISE AND DISSATISFACTION AT THIS REVERSAL OF POSITION. RENOUF SIMPLY SAID THAT MINISTER HAD DECIDED SEVERAL PENDING ISSUES JUST BEFORE LEAVING FOR TERRIGAL LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE. GOA IS FULLY AWARE OF OUR POSITION. RENOUF SUPPOSED THAT GOVERNMENT STRATEGY AT TERRIGAL WAS UPPERMOST IN WILLISSEE'S MIND.

7. COMMENT: BELIEVE THERE IS NOTHING FURTHER WE CAN DO NOW TO INFLUENCE THIS UNFORTUNATE LAST MINUTE REVERSAL. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WILLESEE FELT A MORE SUPPLE (AND STILL MORE AMBIGUOUS) GOA POSITION AT LOW CONFERENCE WOULD HELP HIM AND WHITLAM TO OPPOSE LEFT WING PRESSURES AT TERRIGAL FOR RECOGNITION OF PRG OR ACCEPTANCE OF PRG INFORMATION OFFICE. HARROP

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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